

Effect of statins and fibrates on plasma creatine phosphokinase in Mexican patients with hypercholesterolemia

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ABSTRACT

Combination therapy to treat dyslipidemia has become popular in patients with coronary heart disease; however, it can also increase the risk of serious adverse effects, like myalgias and rhabdomyolysis. We analyzed the characteristics of 527 Mexican patients with hypercholesterolemia to assess the effect of statins and fibrates on plasma creatine phosphokinase (CPK) after three months of treatment. Atorvastatine, pravastatin and rosuvastatin showed a statistically significant difference in CPK ($p < 0.05$). Four patients (0.75%) had moderate and transitory up to 3 times the CPK upper limit range, all of them referring myalgias. Although statins and fibrates treatments are safe, monitoring CPK plasma levels during treatment is still advisable.